

Remarks:

Applicants (hereinafter, Applicant) hereby request reconsideration of the application.

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's confirmation of receipt of the claim for priority and certified copy of the priority application under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

Claims 11-23 are now in the application. Claims 11 and 14 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Claim 13 has been canceled. Claims 16-23 are withdrawn from consideration. Affirmation of the election is herewith made regarding item 4 on page 2 of the Office action.

In item 6 on page 3 of the above-identified Office action, claims 11, 12 and 14 have been rejected as being indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

More specifically, the Examiner stated that claim 11 used a vague term. That term has been eliminated in amended claim 1.

The Examiner also stated that in claim 12, the terms "electronic component" and "microelectronic component" are vague. For explanation, Applicant requests the Examiner to

refer to page 1, lines 10-12 and page 3, lines 11-12 of the specification of the instant application.

In addition, the Examiner stated that claim 14 is indefinite with respect to the term "at least one said upper layer". The term has been replaced with --said at least one upper insulating layer--. Finally, the Examiner stated that claim 14 recites an unclear term. The term has been clarified as said lower--insulating--layer.

It is accordingly believed that the claims meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The above-noted changes to the claims are provided solely for cosmetic and/or clarificatory reasons. They are neither provided for overcoming the prior art nor do they narrow the scope of the claim for any reason related to the statutory requirements for a patent.

In item 7 on page 3 of the Office action, claims 11-12 and 14-15 have been rejected as being fully anticipated by Leuschner et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,556,812) under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's statement (page 4, item 8) that claim 13 "would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims."

In light of the above, the features of claim 13 have been integrated into claim 11. No new matter has been added.

It is accordingly believed to be clear that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, either show or suggest the features of claim 11. Insofar as claims 12 and 14-15 are ultimately dependent upon claim 11, and due to the fact that amended claim 11 is believed to be allowable, the dependent claims are believed to be allowable as well. Thus, the objection to claim 13 and rejection of claims 11-12 and 14-15 under Section 102 are now moot.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 11-12 and 14-23 are solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone counsel so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

Please charge any fees which might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner and

Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,

Ven Ponugoti

For Applicant

VRP:cgm

Ven R. Ponugoti

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August 16, 2002

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09/817,967

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the claims:

Claim 11 (amended). A component, which comprises:

a substrate;

a lower insulating layer having a layer thickness between 0.05 μm and 50 μm and having a region;

at least one upper insulating layer having a layer thickness between 0.05 μm and 50 μm and having a region; [and]

at least one activated region that is activated for a process selected from the group consisting of subsequent metallization, photosensitization[, and hydrophobicization [and surface functionalization that is other than metallization, photosensitization, and hydrophobicization];

said at least one activated region being selected from the group consisting of (said region of said lower insulating layer and said region of said at least one upper insulating layer;

said lower insulation layer located adjacent said at least one upper insulation layer ; and

said lower insulating layer being chemically different from said at least one upper insulating layer.

Claim 14 (amended). The component according to claim 11, wherein said at least one [said] upper insulating layer is a layer selected from the group consisting of a patterned layer and a mask layer for activating said lower insulating layer.



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Klaus Lowack et al.
Serial No. : 09/817,967
Filed : March 27, 2001
Title : Component Having at Least Two Mutually
Adjacent Insulating Layers and
Corresponding Production Method
Examiner : Cathy Fong Fong Lam Group Art Unit:1775

ASSOCIATE POWER OF ATTORNEY

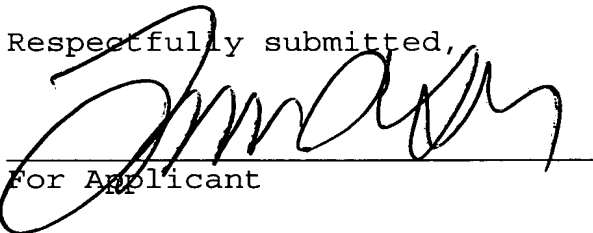
Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,
Washington, D. C. 20231

S i r :

Please recognize VEN R. PONUGOTI (Reg. No. 51,052) as my
associate in the matter of the above-identified application,
with full powers. Please continue addressing all
communications to the following address:

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Respectfully submitted,



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